

Guidance for pupils on Solihull Transport school buses



The school transport team is following the Gov.UK guidance - Transport to school and other places of education: 2020-2021 academic year.

Dedicated transport to schools usually carries the same group of children on a regular basis. They do not mix with the general public. This helps limit the number of other people with whom they come into contact. For this reason the rules for travelling are different from those on public transport. School buses can run at full capacity. Social distancing should be maximised *where it is possible*.

As far as possible, buses will now be school-specific.

The following points must be observed to prevent and minimise the spread of virus:

- Children must not board the bus if they, or a member of their household, has symptoms of coronavirus Covid-19.
- If a child develops symptoms whilst at school they will be sent home. They must not travel on the bus. Parents should have contingency arrangements.
- Children must clean their hands straight before and straight after their journey by hand washing or using hand sanitiser.
- Children over the age of 11 must wear a face covering while travelling on the bus (unless exempt).
- Children should ensure good respiratory hygiene – ‘catch it, kill it, bin it’. Carry and use a tissue to catch a cough or sneeze and dispose safely, as soon as possible.
- Your school may decide on a seating plan. Sit where you are told and stay seated. Do not shout or sing.

Links:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/transport-to-school-and-other-places-of-education-autumn-term-2020>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-safer-transport-guidance-for-operators>

Guidance for operators of school buses for Solihull school contracts



Broadly, you must follow the Gov.UK Coronavirus (Covid-19): safer transport guidance for operators.

The school bus(es) that you operator for Solihull Council are closed contracts. The rules for operation follow the Gov.UK guidance: Transport to school and other places of education: 2020-2021 academic year.

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The following points must be observed to prevent and minimise the spread of virus:

- Drivers and guides must not commence work if they, or a member of their household, has symptoms of coronavirus Covid-19. If they develop symptoms whilst at work they must go home and get a test.
- Drivers and guides must wear a face covering on school transport journeys
- Drivers and guides should use hand sanitiser at intervals throughout the journey, and always after close or direct contact with a child or their belongings.
- Drivers and guides are strongly advised to take an asymptomatic (lateral flow test) every 3-5 days. Go to the Solihull website and book a test: <https://www.solihull.gov.uk/COVID-19/covidtesting>
- Provide hand sanitiser for passengers to use when getting on and off the bus.
- Frequently touched surfaces on the vehicles must be cleaned before each journey and enhanced cleaning should take place at the end of each day.
- Routes are now school-specific, as far as possible. Only pick up children from one school unless otherwise authorised.
- All eligible children will be issued with a Solihull bus pass.
- Children are strongly advised to wear a face covering. No child must be refused entry onto a bus because they have no face covering, or be required to prove their exemption.

Links:

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<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-safer-transport-guidance-for-operators>